

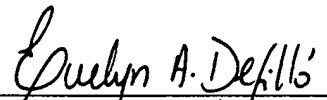
U.S. Application No.
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Attorney Docket: 3926.037

improperly depending from multiple dependent claims, and to otherwise conform the claims to U.S. practice. Care has been taken to ensure that no new matter is added to the text.

Entry and favorable consideration prior to consideration are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: February 27, 2002

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

"EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING LABEL NUMBER: EL568147348US

DATE OF DEPOSIT: February 27, 2002

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT and a stamped receipt post card are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. §1.10 on the date indicated and is addressed: ATTN: Box PCT, Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 16-0877.


Bonnie L. Horst

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

The Examiner is requested to accept the marked-up version as it is based on the previous version, which when modified as below, produces the clean version submitted with the current amendment.

Please amend the claims as follows:

Please cancel Claims 1-26.

Please add the following new Claims 27-49:

- 27. A process for displaying a perspective image (B) with an image element (4A through 4H) for at least one occupant of a vehicle, wherein the image (B) represents the perspective of the occupant, said process comprising:
- generating a virtual display representing the operating environment of the vehicle,
 - displaying within the virtual display the image element (4A through 4H) as a three dimensional image,
 - changing at least one characteristic of an image element (4A through 4H) depending at least one of:
 - the roadway ahead (F),
 - an operating parameter of the vehicle, and
 - a parameter of an object (6) identified in the area of the vehicle preceding roadway (F),
 - wherein said display includes at least one three dimensional image element representing an operating parameter or providing warning information.
28. A process according to Claim 27, wherein the change in the image element (4A through 4H) is a change in shape, color, position and/or dimension.

29. A process according to Claim 27, wherein the roadway (F) is displayed as an image element (4A).
30. A process according to Claim 4, wherein the contour of the roadway (F) in the display (B) is continuously conformed to the natural course of the stretch of road ahead of the vehicle.
31. A process according to Claim 27, wherein a speedometer or tachometer scale (T) is provided as an image element (4B).
32. A process according to Claim 31, wherein the speedometer or tachometer scale (T) is continuously conformed to the contour of the roadway (F).
33. A process according to Claim 27, wherein the speed of the vehicle is detected as an operating parameter.
34. A process according to Claim 27, wherein the operating parameter of the vehicle is provided as an image element (4D).
35. A process according to Claim 27, wherein the speed, type and/or dimension of the object (6) is determined and evaluated as a parameter.
36. A process according to Claim 27, wherein the object (6) in the area of the roadway (F) is classified and evaluated as to a type selected from the group consisting of vehicle, obstacle, pedestrian and/or traffic sign.

37. A process according to Claim 27, wherein a symbol representing the object (6) is provided as an image element (4E, 4G through 4H).
38. A process according to Claim 27, wherein the actual detected value of the operating parameter of the vehicle and/or the parameter of the object (6) is provided as an image element (4D).
39. A process according to Claim 27, wherein an acoustic and/or an optical signal is emitted upon exceeding and/or falling below a threshold value for a characteristic of the roadway (F), the operating parameter of the vehicle, or a parameter of the object (6) or the image elements (4A through 4H).
40. A process according to Claim 39, wherein the threshold value is preset.
41. A process according to Claim 39, wherein the displayed speedometer or tachometer scale (T) is changed in at least one characteristic upon exceeding and/or falling below the threshold value of the vehicle (F), the operating parameters of the vehicle and/or the parameters of the object (6).
42. A process according to Claim 27, wherein a directional indicator for the roadway preceding ones own vehicle is provided as an image element (4F).
43. A process according to Claim 27, wherein the image (B) is displayed on a display surface in the dashboard or

instrument panel (8) or in the field of view of the windshield of the vehicle.

44. A display device (1) for at least one occupant of a vehicle, including a segment (2) for display of a perspective image (B) of a preceding roadway (F) including an area for at least one image element (4A through 4H), wherein the image element (4A through 4H) is changeable in at least one characteristic depending upon the preceding roadway (F), at least one operating parameter of the vehicle and/or at least one parameter of an object (6) identified in the roadway (F)

wherein said display device is capable of generating a three-dimensionalized representation of the image element (4A through 4H) within a three-dimensional image (B) representing the vehicle operating environment, and

wherein said image (B) includes at least one three dimensional image element representing an operating parameter or providing warning information.

45. A display device (1) according to Claim 44, wherein as characteristic of the image element (4A through 4H) the shape, color, position and/or dimension thereof is changeable.
46. A display device (1) according to Claim 44, wherein a roadway (F), represented three dimensionally, is provided as image element (4A).
46. A display device (1) according to Claim 44, wherein at least one measurement technical means is provided for determining

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the vehicle path (F), the operating parameter of the vehicle and/or the parameter of the object (6).

47. A display device (1) according to Claim 44, wherein a navigation information system is provided for providing information regarding the roadway (F) and/or the object (6).
48. A display device (1) according to Claim 44, wherein the segment (2) is a multi-color segment.
49. A display device (1) according to Claim 44, further including an acoustic emitter is provided.--

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